

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING

A regular meeting of the Beatrice Board of Public Works was held on the 13th day of October, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room, 400 Ella Street, Beatrice, Nebraska.

ROLL CALL

Attending: Boardmembers: Coffin, Baehr, Eskra

Absent: Leech, Moran

Chairman Eskra announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room and is accessible to members of the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve agenda as submitted.
- b. Receive and place on file all notices pertaining to this meeting.
- c. Receive and place on file all materials having any bearing on this meeting.
- d. Approval of minutes of regular meeting on September 29, 2021, as on file in the City Clerk's Office.
- e. Recommend approval of Street Department Report of Claims in the amount of \$83,624.61 to the Mayor and City Council.
- f. Approval of Electric Department, Water Department, and WPC Department Report of Claims in the amount of \$553,193.68.

Tobias J. Tempelmeyer, City Administrator/General Manager, noted that a revised agenda was sent out removing the recommendation to award the bid for the Chief Standing Bear Trail Concrete Parking Lot Project, as the funding for said project does not come from BPW.

Moved by Baehr, seconded by Coffin, that the items listed under the consent agenda, be approved, accepted, and/or ratified as presented.

Roll Call: Yea: Baehr, Coffin, Eskra

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/BIDS

There were no public hearings/bids.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution entering into a Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program Vendor Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Tobias J. Tempelmeyer, City Administrator/General Manager, reported to the Board that the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) notified the City that they have received \$6 million to be used for a low-income water assistance program. This will be paid 100% with State funding. The funding will be used to pay water and wastewater bills for low-income residential households. There are a number of qualifications that the applicant must meet. Tempelmeyer stated in general a family of four (4) with an income of less than \$37,000 would qualify. Tempelmeyer noted this resolution will confirm that the City wishes to participate in the program and more information will be provided. Tempelmeyer stated funding will start in

early 2022 and will continue until funds are exhausted or until September 30, 2023. Mayor Wirth inquired how the City will know if a customer qualifies for the program. Tempelmeyer stated the customer will need to notify us that they wish to participate in the program. Boardmember Eskra inquired if the program will be beneficial to our customers. Tempelmeyer stated it will be a benefit to some customers, however, if it does become burdensome, the City can provide thirty (30) day written notice that it wishes to discontinue the program. Mayor Wirth inquired who will determine if the customer qualifies and Tempelmeyer stated someone within the City staff will review the application and make that determination.

Moved by Baehr, seconded by Coffin, to recommend to the Mayor and City Council to enter into a Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program Vendor Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

Roll Call: Yea: Baehr, Coffin, Eskra
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

ORDINANCES

There were no ordinances.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one appeared at public forum.

DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS

Repeal Board Policy #132 – Credits & Rebates for Installation of Electric Devices

Tobias J. Tempelmeyer, City Administrator/General Manager, reported to the Board that at the previous meeting Board Policy #156 – Energy Rebate and Incentive Program, was adopted. Upon filing the new policy, Board Policy #132 – Credits & Rebates for Installation of Electric Devices was found. It is the recommendation to repeal Board Policy #132 and replace it with Board Policy #156.

Moved by Coffin, seconded by Baehr, to repeal Board Policy #132.

Roll Call: Yea: Baehr, Coffin, Eskra
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

General Manager's Monthly Report

Tobias J. Tempelmeyer, City Administrator/General Manager, presented the General Manager's Monthly Report to the Board. The environmental review for the Water Department SRF funding has been completed and the State has signed off on it. Tempelmeyer noted the State is requiring loan documents and a bond resolution be approved by the City Council prior to closing on the property. Mayor Wirth inquired why the City is being required to provide backup bond security. Tempelmeyer clarified the bond resolution is not a backup, it is confirmation that the City will make the required payments. Tempelmeyer reported an RFQ will be put together and sent out in the next few months for the Redesign of Lincoln Street. Tempelmeyer stated there will be lots to discuss with the Board and Council and hopes to have public input in regards to the redesign as well. James Burroughs, City Engineer, reported that the Big Blue River Access project is near completion. The Engineering Department is currently working on developing plans for the 2022 projects to go out for bid this winter.

Burroughs noted the restroom was installed at Chief Standing Bear Trail and the Street Department will be prepping the area by removing the concrete and rock in the area that the parking lot is to be constructed. Boardmember Eskra inquired if citizens with items still placed at the curb from last week's Clean City event will be contacted. Tempelmeyer stated Chet McGrury, Code Enforcement Officer, is in the process of sending out letters giving them five (5) days to remove the items. If the items are not removed within that time frame, the City will remove the items and the owner will be billed.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular BPW Board Meeting will be October 27, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room.

Moved by Coffin, seconded by Baehr, that the meeting be adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Roll Call: Yea: Baehr, Coffin, Eskra
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Darin Baehr, Acting Secretary

Dave Eskra, Chairman